

kansas state collegian

www.kstatecollegian.com

tuesday, october 4, 2011

vol. 117 | no. 31

DeRay Davis is going to perform on Wednesday. Get the details on pg. 5.



Tomorrow:
High: 81 F
Low: 53 F



Thursday:
High: 74 F
Low: 49 F

03

Everyone counts
News editor Karen Ingram tells you why looking at the big picture in life matters.

04

Progress report
See how Collegian writer Tyler Dreiling grades the teams of the Big 12.

06

Test of time
Local business, rodeo team supporter RB Outpost marks their 10th anniversary.

Construction delays make life interesting for Zeta Tau Alpha



Kendra Kinter

Editor's Note: This article was completed as an assignment for a class in the A.Q. Miller School of Journalism and Mass Communications.

Along Sunset Avenue, construction has been underway since last semester when my sorority, Zeta Tau Alpha, decided to make an old fraternity building our new home. As a member of Zeta, I know that move-in day on Sept. 16 was a date that was full of excitement for all of the girls as we moved out of our temporary home at the Clarion Hotel and into our house on Sunset. In between the Alpha Delta Pi sorority and the Beta Theta Pi fraternity, Zeta colonized in October 2010 and transformed an old fraternity building into a warm home to suit 61 women.

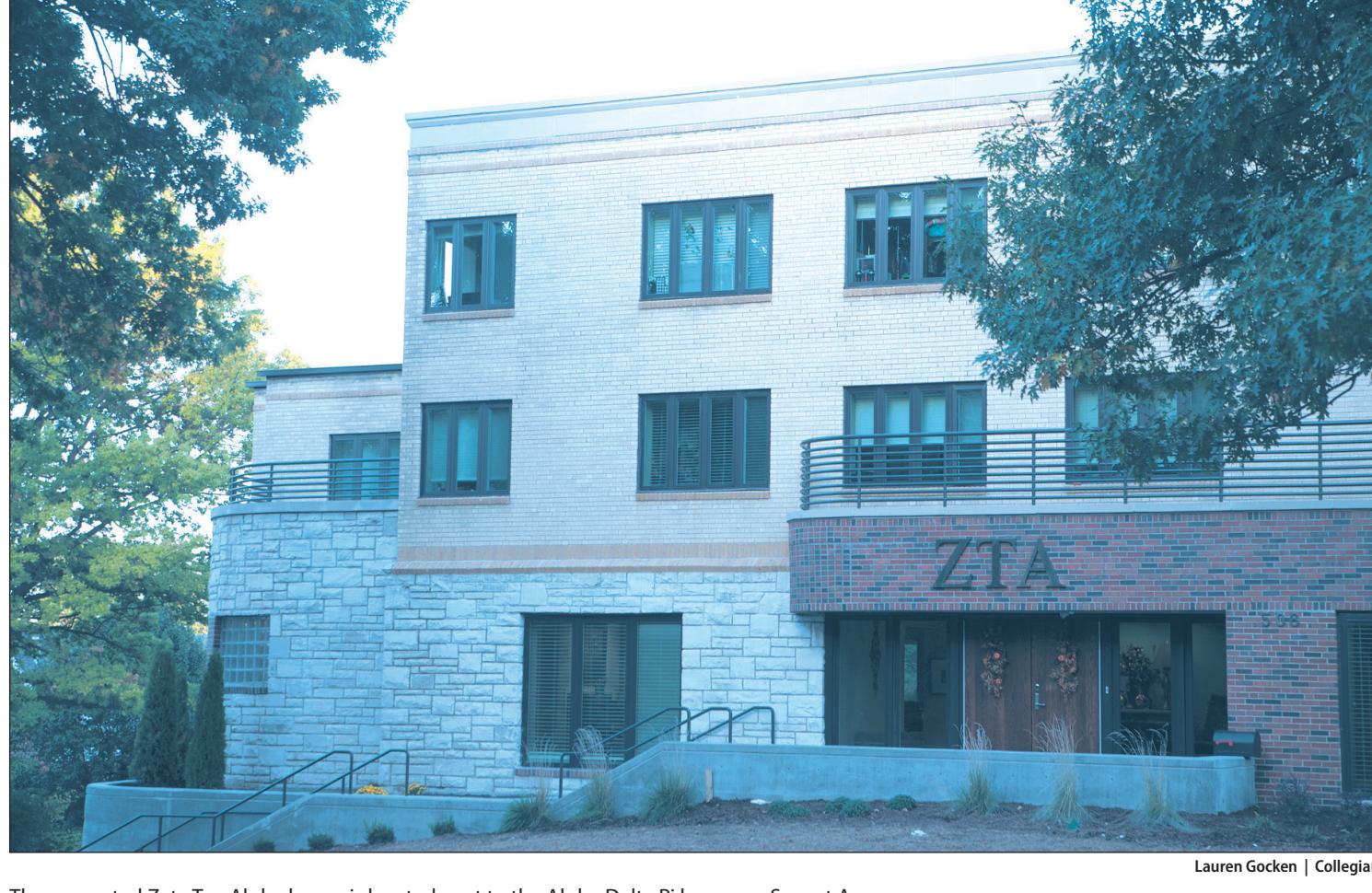
Zeta Tau Alpha has had plans of building a house since 2009, when the national office purchased the building and land from the Delta Chi Fraternity, who had rented the house to the Sigma Pi fraternity. Turning this old fraternity house into a beautiful home for all of us was a challenge to say the least. Construction for Zeta made way in February and with a few minor setbacks.

Although construction was due to end at the end of July, a few unplanned events moved construction way back into the month of September.

"During the summer, it rained for eight days, which pushed the masons back in their schedule," said Connor Staats, Zeta Tau Alpha house manager for the Beta Upsilon Chapter.

After the masons couldn't start, every other team working on the house was subject to schedule changes as well.

All the members of Zeta were scheduled to move into our new home on Aug.



Lauren Gocken | Collegian

The renovated Zeta Tau Alpha house is located next to the Alpha Delta Pi house on Sunset Ave.

7. Moving in this early would give us time to adjust to our new surroundings and live in the house during preparations for sorority recruitment. Because the house was not done, the construction company housed the women of Zeta in the Clarion Hotel on Fort Riley Boulevard.

"Living in the hotel definitely wasn't ideal, but I don't think it was as bad as most of the girls expected. The hotel provided shuttles and meals so it was just another home away from home," said Rebecca Woodward, an active member in Zeta Tau Alpha Sorority.

We held our recruitment process in the upper floors of the K-State Student Union. The girls living in and myself were informed about two weeks before we were supposed to move in that the house wouldn't be

done on its scheduled time. Disappointment was the initial emotion, but we had conference calls with

"Having the home makes me feel like we are more a part of the greek community."

Connor Staats
Zeta Tau Alpha house manager

our nationals about what we could expect. At first I didn't know if I could live in a hotel for a month. It just isn't the ideal situation for any college student. I felt uneasy about not being completely settled into a

home for a solid month of college. With school and a job, housing was a stress factor that I didn't have room for.

After the first conference call with our nationals, I called one of my sisters that I knew shared the same concerns.

Our nationals really provided everything we would need in the hotel, and worked out all the bumps in the road so we didn't have much more to worry about. I talked to three other girls about how they felt, and we all became really strong through the rough process of moving in. I don't know, if it weren't for the living situation, if we would all share the great sisterhood that we do. Even though I didn't want to live in the Clarion for a month, I would do it all over again if it meant having the bond I do with these girls.

All 60 members of Zeta and our house director moved in on Friday afternoon, Sept. 16.

"I am excited to have us all together to make memories, laughing and sharing the ups and downs of life," said Cathy Humphreys, our Zeta house director.

Move-in day for all of us wasn't as bad as some might think. Luckily, Zeta hired professional movers to take all of our belongings out of the hotel and put them in our rooms at the house.

Most parents came up to help the majority of the girls move in. With 60 girls and their parents moving things up and down stairs, the house on Sunset was a busy beehive that Friday afternoon.

The house includes a lower level, the main floor and two floors of bedrooms for all members. The bed-

rooms consist of 20 two-girl rooms, one three-girl room and two six-girl rooms. The house is also the only sorority house to have an elevator in their home, because of new sorority building requirements. Since the other houses on campus have been around for years, the requirements do not pertain to their houses.

Zeta plans on setting a date for an All-University Open House sometime in the upcoming semester.

Settling down in our new home, all of Zeta is happy to have a permanent address.

"Having the home makes me feel like we are more a part of the greek community," Staats said.

The women of Zeta have started off our year with a new home and we are looking forward to participate in greek events.

K-State alumna to speak on career in social justice

Karen Ingram
news editor

K-State alumna Kristy Parker, who received a bachelor's of arts in history from K-State in 1991, will be giving a dinner and lecture entitled "Kristy Parker, for the United States: Behind the Scenes in the Prosecutor's Office, Civil Rights Division, U.S. Department of Justice" on Thursday and Friday.

Parker practiced constitutional law for the U.S. Department of Justice for 13 years, joined the Criminal Section of the Civil Rights Division in 2002, became a Special Litigation Counsel in 2008 and Deputy Chief in 2010. While in the Criminal Section, she successfully prosecuted hate crimes, human trafficking cases and police abuse cases.

Angela Hubler, associate professor in women's studies and member of the women's studies advisory board, said Parker's visit is part of a lecture series designed to bring prominent

women speakers to K-State and the public. Hubler said students interested in women's studies, history and pre-law would be especially interested in Parker's speech because it provides valuable information on job opportunities for them in the government to work for social justice.

For more information, or to RSVP for the dinner, please call Kim Garver at (785) 532-5738.

Parker will be speaking at the Holiday Inn at the Campus on Oct. 6 at 5:30 p.m. as part of a dinner. Tickets are \$45, or \$35 for students. Parker will also be presenting her speech to the public in Hale Library's Hemisphere Room on Oct. 7 at 12:30 p.m. For more information, or to RSVP for the dinner, please call Kim Garver at 785-532-5738.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR:

To: The Kansas State University student body

Everyone says they have the best fans and best student body in college athletics - that is, until they play in Manhattan. They then realize that we truly do have the best and most amazing student support that exists anywhere.

On behalf of our student athletes, our coaches and our support staff, I again thank you so very much for your loyal, caring, loud and continued support. Our players are very conscious of your presence and talk about it often. It means a great deal to them as it has to me for 22 years.

Hope you are having a great semester.

Warmest regards,

Bill Snyder
head football coach

American Red Cross to hold blood drive on campus

Alejandro De Luna
staff writer

Today marks the start of the biannual blood drive at K-State. The blood drive is held by the American Red Cross and will continue through this Friday.

Kristi Ingalls, senior donation recruitment representative for the Central Plains Region of the American Red Cross, said 25 percent of their blood comes from college students and is distributed to locations of urgent need. The Central Plains Region consists of Kansas and Northern Oklahoma,

where 500 pints of blood are needed on a daily basis.

Blood has a shelf life of 42 days, thus it is important for the Red Cross to hold blood drives regularly.

Last March, 886 students donated a total of 819 pints of blood in the four day period. According to Ingalls, this year's goal is to reach over 1000 students in the next four days.

"It's well worth your time to save someone's life," Ingalls said.

The Blood Drive will run today through Thursday from 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in the K-State Student Union Ballroom. Students must bring a photo ID. Snacks and drinks will be provided.

- 1 pint of blood can save up to 3 lives.
- 5 million patients in the U.S. need blood every year.
- The Red Cross holds more than 200,000 blood drives each year.

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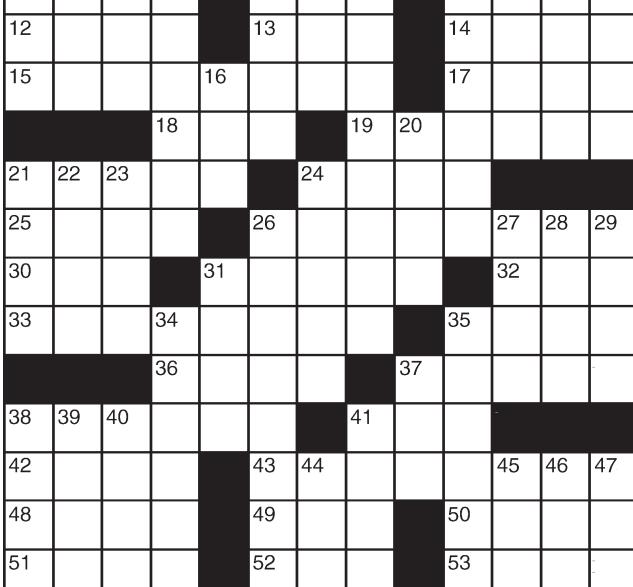
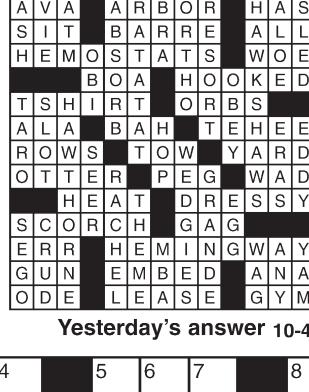
ACROSS

- 1 "Zounds!" counter
- 5 Not part operating
- 8 Pump or oxford
- 12 Long story
- 13 Squeezing snake
- 14 Day fraction
- 15 Athletic awards
- 17 Deserve
- 18 Stone in a peach
- 19 Rasp
- 21 Induces ennui
- 24 Half-quart
- 25 Always
- 26 Long-short feet, in poetry
- 30 Started
- 31 Actor Michael
- 32 Conk out
- 33 Woes
- 35 Paddock papa
- 36 Requirement
- 37 Say
- 38 Carlsbad attraction

DOWN

- 1 Superlative suffix
- 10 Yours and mine
- 11 Sea eagle
- 16 Towel designation
- 20 Formerly
- 21 Hit hard
- 22 Finished
- 23 Change the decor
- 34 — lies the head ...
- 35 Emotionless
- 37 Web address, for short
- 38 Part of a Superman costume
- 39 Sahara-like
- 40 Fought (for)
- 41 German city
- 44 Fish eggs
- 45 Tokyo's old name
- 46 Longing
- 47 Took a chair

Solution time: 21 mins.



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CORRECTIONS

If you see something that should be corrected or clarified, please call our editor-in-chief, Tim Schrag, at 785-532-6556, or e-mail him at news@spub.ksu.edu.

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K-State daily briefs

Karen Ingram
news editor

Zeta Tau Alpha's "Think Pink Week" continues with a yogurt-eating contest Wednesday in Bosco Student Plaza at 3:30 p.m. There will also be pink T-shirts for sale in Kramer Dining Center. Proceeds go to raise money for breast cancer awareness and education. Questions may be directed to Macy Warburton at kstateztah@gmail.com.

The Columbian Association of KSU and the Diversity Programming Committee present "The Secret in Their Eyes (El secreto

del sus ojos)" in the K-State Student Union's Forum Hall tonight at 7:30 p.m. The Spanish-language film with English subtitles follows a retired legal counselor who uses writing to come to terms with an unsolved murder and a failed love that both haunt him. The film is free and open to the public.

Career and Employment Services are holding a government job fair for all majors in the K-State Student Union's Big 12 Room today at 4 p.m. Several state and federal agencies will have representatives to speak to students about how their major — what-

ever it is — can be applied to job opportunities in the government.

The Red State Blues Band will perform at Fort Riley's Oktoberfest on Oct. 9, along with the 1st Infantry Division's Gunpowder and Lead on Oct. 7 and Caleb McGinn on Oct. 6. Oktoberfest will be held at Rally Point Field on Post from 4 p.m. to midnight on Oct. 6 and 7 and noon to midnight on Oct. 8 and 9. It is open to the public and free parking is available. Wristbands to cover rides and the carnival cost \$15. For more information, please contact the Fort Riley Public Affairs office at 785-239-3358 or 239-3033 or visit rileymwr.com.

Commission to discuss business fees

Jakki Thompson
staff writer

At the City Commission meeting tonight at 7, mayor Loren Peppert will recognize the recipients of community service awards. The commission will also hear proclamations related to Breast Cancer Awareness Month, Cyber Security Awareness Month and Fire Safety Week, held Oct. 9-15. A public hearing will consider the funding of the improvement of Shuss Road. The commission will also vote on the approval of the first reading of the Aggierville and downtown business improvement district fees ordinance.



Empathy needed to relate to all people, great and small



Karen Ingram

A friend of mine used a dry-erase marker board and started to leave without erasing it. When I suggested that he should clean it off, his response was, "That's what janitors are for."

I tried not to be offended, but his words caught me off guard and I felt stung. I have to remind myself constantly, on this campus full of people who have never had to work menial jobs before, that people who think and say such things are not intentionally mean; they've just never had to be a janitor before. I have.

The "big picture" is the blanket term we use for things that have too much detail to focus on every little aspect — namely, life. It's easy to see the rug is woven of many strands of thread, but it's far more difficult to look at each thread and see that those threads are made of many smaller ones. Everything we do impacts everybody else on the planet, whether we realize it or not. It does not matter if you are the cream of the crop or living on the bottom rung of the ladder of life. We all matter in some way.

After all, where would the CEOs of Intel or AMD be if there was not somebody shoveling sand for a living to make their microchips? Where would Levi Strauss be if someone was not picking cotton for a living? I find that the further up the ladder you go, the nicer the view is, but the more difficult it is to see. Everything washes together the higher you climb, blends into one. It's easy to see the big picture, but the devil is in the details.

Just as people who purchase illegal drugs refuse to admit their lives are tied to a newly orphaned child in a third-world country somewhere, people who purchase diamonds do not see the miners buried alive in the earth. No one thinks of the workers who lost fingers to make shingles for a \$200,000 house. Those people who live the life of the privileged are not there because they sit upon the shoulders of giants. They sit

upon the shoulders of people with dirt under their nails and calluses on their skin.

And I think one of the biggest ironies is prejudice against immigrants, whether they are illegal or not. This country we think so highly of is made primarily of immigrants. This includes the fair-skinned people who curse at Mexicans for not "speaking the language" or for taking jobs away from Americans. I find this especially ironic if these people happen to be proudly boasting of their Irish heritage, forgetting that the Irish were treated very poorly when they began coming to America en masse in the 1800s, because they didn't "speak the language" and because they took jobs away from Americans. But why should anyone bother to really learn things about themselves beyond living memory? Most people I know never knew their great-grandparents and once their grandparents are gone, there's very little left for them to "remember" about their family. It fades away, becomes more cloth than threads. But there is something to be said for learning more about your history than what you find on a clever green T-shirt.

I am rude and brash. I curse and speak without thinking and offend many people. But one thing I always try hard to do is say please and thank you when someone is doing their job, even if that job is costing me something valuable, like convenience. I apologize and tell them I do not mean to take out my frustration on them, and to please disregard my tone. I am not angry at them. I am angry at the "big picture."

So the next time you throw a full cup of soda into the trash, think about the person who has to take that trash out for a living and how the bag will gush sticky, fetid liquid as they lift it, dirtying their shoes and clothes. The next time you throw wadded money carelessly on the counter to purchase something, think about how the clerk places your change politely into your waiting hand, in return. The next time you admire a nice shirt in the store, look closely at the threads. And the smaller threads that make up those threads. There is more to your life than the "big picture."

**Karen Ingram is a junior in English.
Please send all comments to opinion@spub.ksu.edu.**

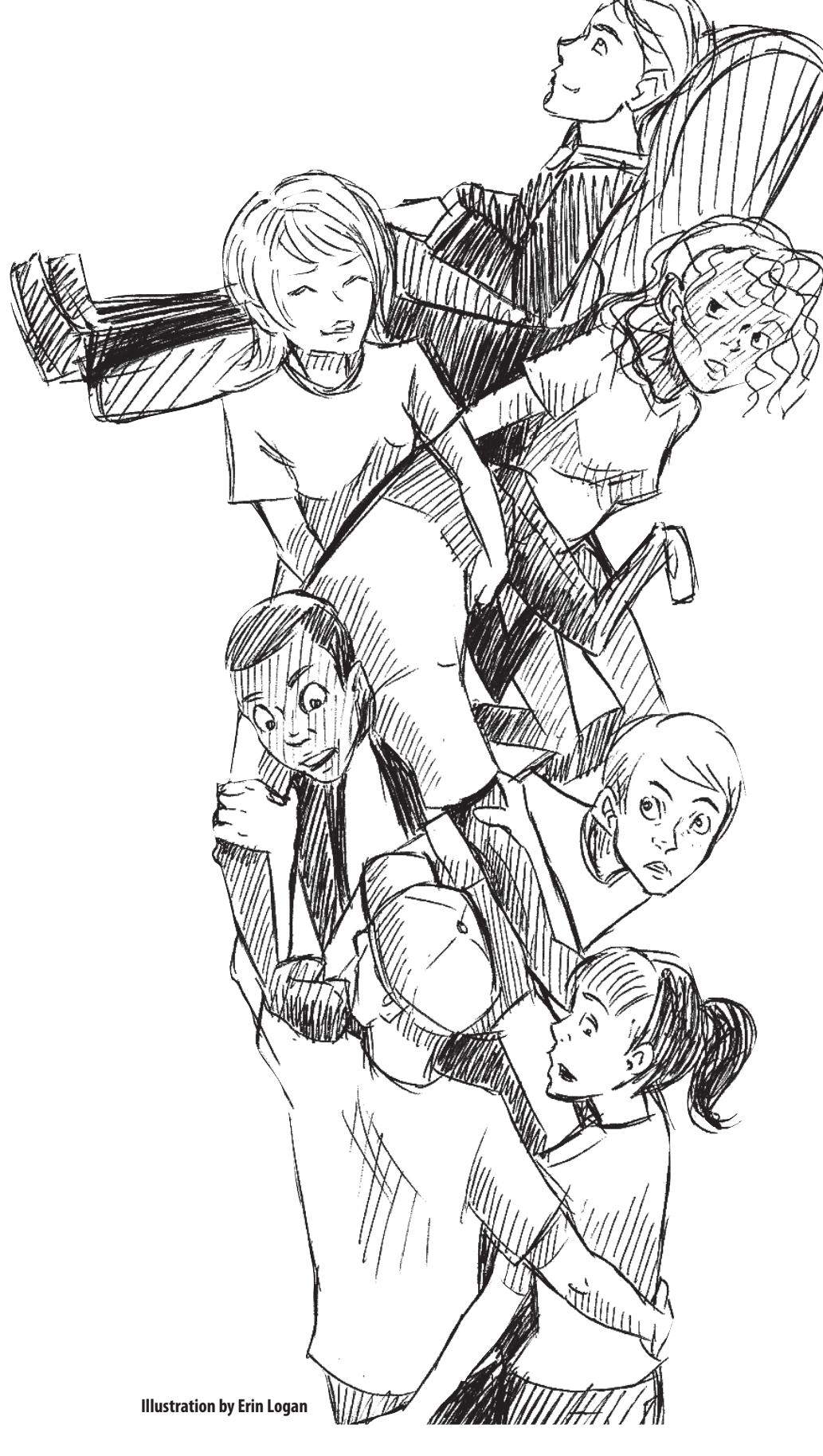


Illustration by Erin Logan

Soldiers deserve right-wing support in fight for personal freedoms



Tyler Brown

On Thursday, Sept. 22, Republicans gathered at their GOP debate in which they discussed all kinds of issues and views to garner favor from voters. It was when candidate Rick Santorum got a video question via YouTube that things turned ugly. In the video, Stephen Hill, a gay soldier in the military who no longer had to hide due to the repeal of the "don't ask, don't tell" policy, asked Santorum if he had plans to fight the repeal should he take office.

As soon as the clip finished playing, people in the crowd booed the soldier and Santorum went on without addressing the rude crowd members. In his response, Santorum explained that, "Sex is not an issue. It should not be an issue. Leave it alone, keep it — keep it to yourself, whether you're heterosexual or homosexual."

He then went on to support the reinstatement of the policy, according to a Sept. 23 article by Ashley Killough at CNN. However, shouldn't any man or woman putting their lives on the line for their country have the freedom to be who they are?

Personally, I know that if I was on foreign soil, thousands of miles away from home with bits of hot lead flying at me from all direc-

tions, hunkering down and facing death, I'd rather have a soldier next to me who wasn't hiding anything and had their full head in the game than nobody at all.

Let's not dance around the fact that most politically conservative people also voice their faith and God when addressing such issues as gays in the military or gay marriage. But really, what's an organized group of those with personal faith have to do with anything? The government isn't completely run by religious zealots who inject their personal faith into every decision they make; in fact, although this country was established by Christians, it was also founded on religious freedoms. So if we take away that aspect of their argument, what do they have left? Conservatives need to realize that the LGBT community is here and it isn't going anywhere.

These are people that have faced oppression since they fully recognized who they were; they're not some boogieman that can be hidden away with social "values."

So where do we go from here? As it stands now, with the repeal of the "don't ask, don't tell" policy, gay and lesbian soldiers in the military are free to be who they really are without being booted out. What about transgender youth that want to join the military to fight in the name of their country? Well, according to the Servicemembers Legal Defense Network website at sldn.org, transgender people aren't allowed into military service due to what is cited as medical and conduct regulations. I hope



Illustration by Yosuke Michishita

we see further progress in the area, to fully represent every member of the LGBT community who want to serve.

I ask you, why not? If somebody wants to make the monumental decision to give up their civilian life, serve their country's military in

the name of defending your everyday civilian lifestyle, then haven't they earned the personal freedom to truly be who they are and stop hiding?

Sure, you can cite religious belief or personal values, but when it comes down to it, your personal

opinion on whether a group of people has earned the right to be who they are doesn't matter.

Try as you might, you cannot wish a group of people away. They're here, they're citizens and servicemen and women, and they deserve every freedom that

you, I, or anybody else in the United States of America has earned by either being born here, or by working for said citizenship.

**Tyler Brown is a senior in English.
Please send all comments to opinion@spub.ksu.edu.**

Have something to say? We want to hear it.
Send in a Letter to the Editor to make your voice heard.

Two-minute drill

Monty Thompson
sports editor

NFL

After an 0-4 start to the season, Miami Dolphins head coach Tony Sparano is on the hot seat. Fortunately for Sparano, the Dolphins will serve a bye in week five, so his position may remain safe for the time being. When the team returns to action in week six against the New York Jets, barring the result of the game, Sparano may be looking for a new team.

MLB

After gaining an early 4-0 lead, Philadelphia Phillies ace pitcher Cliff Lee found himself fighting to hold on late in the game. After a three-run fourth inning surge, the St. Louis Cardinals continued to chip away at the deficit. The Cardinals tied the game in the sixth before taking the lead in the seventh off a hit from Albert Pujols. St. Louis won the game 5-4 to tie the series with the Phillies.

NBA

As the lockout continues to carry on without a resolution in sight, the main issue continues to be the idea of a hard salary cap. Though the players have agreed to lowering their share of the overall salary, both coaches and players refuse to agree on anything else. NBA commissioner David Stern continues to give serious warnings to both parties if they are unable to reach an agreement, but at this time, all those involved understand that the lockout likely won't reach an end anytime soon.

NCAA

As the dust settles over the Big 12 conference and all of the drama from realignment, the remaining nine schools have begun taking steps forward. An agreement has been reached to share equal revenue between all Tier 1 and Tier 2 rights regarding television deals with ESPN, ABC and Fox. At the same time, the conference has opened doors to adding schools and expanding to a larger conference. However, the number of additions the Big 12 wishes to make remains unknown.

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THE
ARTICLES,
DON'T
FORGET TO
WASTE MORE
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DOING THE
LOCATED IN THE
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Big 12 Conference headed toward 'stable situation'

Sean Frye
staff writer

Interim Big 12 commissioner Chuck Neinas has formed a new expansion committee, and K-State President Kirk Schulz will head that committee according to the Big 12's weekly teleconference held on Monday morning. Neinas also announced that the Big 12 will enter into a new financial agreement that entails equal revenue distribution amongst income from television deals.

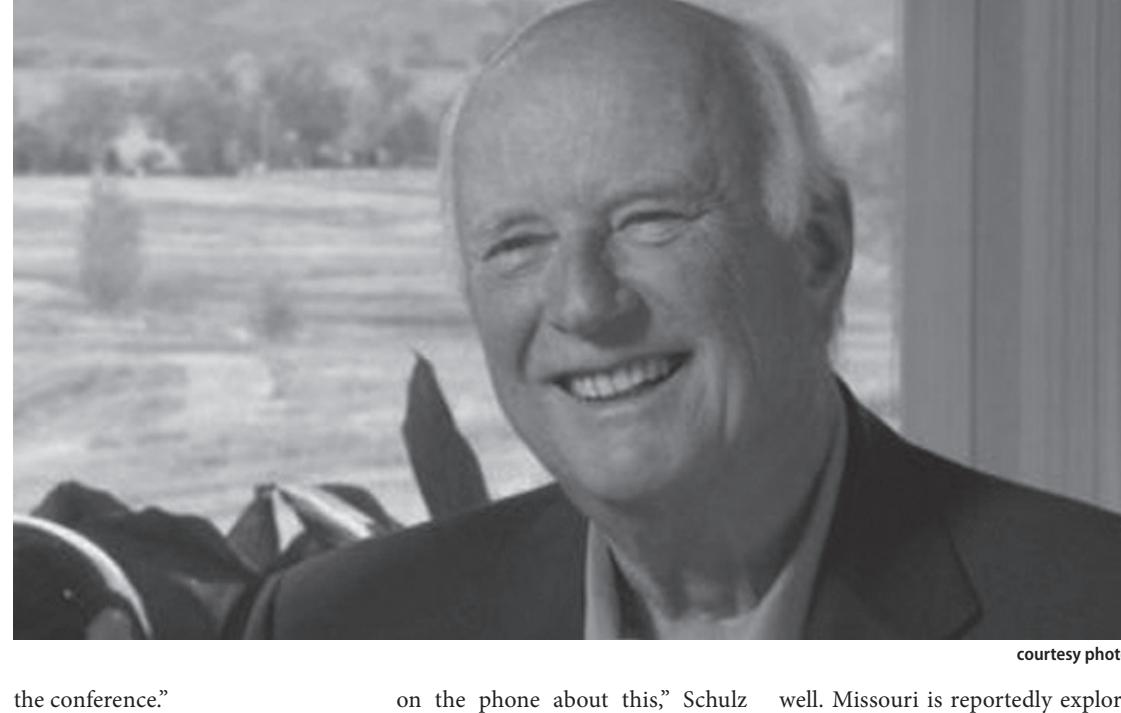
"The expansion committee has been activated," Neinas said. "They'll start meeting sometime this week and we've been encouraged by the amount of interest that has been generated by other institutions."

In order to expand the conference, a committee is headed by Schulz and includes Texas athletic director DeLoss Dodds, Oklahoma athletic director Joe Castiglione, Oklahoma State president Burns Hargis and Missouri chancellor Brady Deaton will look to lure teams into the conference.

"I'm pleased to be serving on the expansion committee," Schulz said in an interview with the Collegian on Monday. "I think it's great for Kansas State to be in a leadership role in helping to find the future of

"It's really difficult for me to say about the number of schools that'll join. We have some members of the conference that would like to see us at 10 and some that would like to see us at 12. We want to be sure that every school we add stands for what the Big 12 is for. What you don't want to do is add a bunch of schools really fast and then look back a few years later and wish we had taken more time."

Kirk Schulz
President of K-State



courtesy photo

the conference."

Neinas also announced on Monday the introduction of a new equal revenue sharing plan of Tier I (network football television contracts), Tier II (cable football television contracts), men's basketball and men's basketball NCAA Tournament television revenue. That is contrary to the prior agreement, which was unequal revenue sharing. That led to schools such as Texas and Oklahoma getting a bigger share of funds from the conference.

"I think [the plan] represents a significant step forward," Schulz said. "The equal revenue sharing, particularly for some of the smaller budget schools like Kansas State, is absolutely critical. If the conference budget gets bigger, everybody wins. I think that's really what we want is to make the pie bigger than making it smaller and arguing how to slice it."

The Big 12 Conference is just coming out of its second scare of a near-collapse in just over a calendar year as Texas, Texas Tech, Oklahoma and Oklahoma State were reportedly seeking options to join the Pac-12 Conference. However, the Pac-12 announced they would not expand to 16 teams and the Big 12 was seemingly salvaged.

"I haven't even bothered to calculate the amount of hours I have been

on the phone about this," Schulz said. "We reached a tipping point a few weeks ago with Oklahoma and Oklahoma State saying, 'Hey, we're gonna stay here, make this work.' What that has done is it changed the conversation around and saying now we're wondering what we need to put on the table to have a stable conference situation."

Former Big 12 commissioner Dan Beebe was removed from his position as a result of the chaos, and former Big Eight commissioner Neinas was called in as the interim replacement.

Since then, he has announced that the Big 12 is actively looking to expand itself to get back to either 10 or 12 teams. The conference will be down to nine teams after this season as Texas A&M is slated to leave the Big 12 for the Southeastern Conference.

"There's no timetable for this," Neinas said. "I can't really answer how the procedures will work, but we're moving forward in a number of areas and I think we're making some success."

Schulz and Neinas both indicated that there are teams interested in joining the Big 12, but neither detailed which schools were interested.

As to how many schools will join the conference, that is a mystery as

well. Missouri is reportedly exploring the option of leaving the Big 12 and joining the SEC, but Neinas expressed plenty of optimism that Missouri will stay put in the Big 12.

"[Missouri] is Midwestern, not Southern," Neinas said.

That leaves the door open for either one team or three teams to join, as discussion on the matter currently centers around whether the conference will contain 10 or 12 teams.

"It's really difficult for me to say about the number of schools that'll join," Schulz said. "We have some members of the conference that would like to see us at 10 and some that would like to see us at 12. We want to be sure that every school we add stands for what the Big 12 is for. What you don't want to do is add a bunch of schools really fast and then look back a few years later and wish we had taken more time."

It seems as though the scare of the Big 12 collapsing is long gone, and K-State has taken a leadership role in proactively looking to expand the conference in order to gain stability.

"When we talk to other members of the Big 12, there is a sense of wanting to work together to heal some of these things and move ahead," Schulz said. "We have a great product on the field so I think the conference will be OK."

State of the Big 12: team projections after five weeks



Tyler Dreiling

As conference play begins to unfold, let's take a look at where each Big 12 football team lies in comparison to where it was expected to be when preseason predictions were made. Projected records are from the predictions I made before the season started.

TEXAS LONGHORNS

Projected: 7-5
Currently: 4-0;
Ranked No. 11
Grade: A+

Another Big 12 team surpassing expectations is the Texas Longhorns. A year removed from an embarrassing 5-7 campaign, Texas seems to have figured out its offensive woes and is ready to contend once more.

MISSOURI TIGERS

Projected: 6-6
Currently: 2-2
Grade: B-

The Tigers lost in overtime to Arizona State and haven't quite looked like the same team as in recent years. Reaching their projection is still very much a possibility, and a win against K-State this weekend would go a long way.

OKLAHOMA SOONERS

Projected: 12-0
Currently: 4-0;
Ranked No. 3
Grade: A+

A road match-up with Florida State was seen as the big measuring stick for this Sooner team, and Oklahoma passed the test. A national title seems within reasonable expectations for Bob Stoops and his well-balanced squad.

BAYLOR BEARS

Projected: 7-5
Currently: 3-1;
Ranked No. 25
Grade: A

Robert Griffin III has the Bears among the most feared offenses in the country. Last week's loss to K-State does not change that. Baylor was expected to be explosive, but it is still outperforming expectations and is on track for a decent bowl game.

OKLAHOMA STATE COWBOYS

Projected: 10-2
Currently: 4-0;
Ranked No. 6
Grade: A+

The Cowboys have looked excellent offensively in the early going, passing their first big test of the season against Texas A&M. The real challenges lie ahead, but for now, OSU is a definite dark horse candidate for a National Championship.

TEXAS TECH RED RAIDERS

Projected: 7-5
Currently: 4-0
Grade: B+

It's a decent start for the Red Raiders, but they have yet to be tested by a superior opponent. The Red Raiders' rally from a 20-0 deficit to beat Kansas on the road last Saturday is pretty mediocre to be called the best victory of the young season.

KANSAS STATE WILDCATS

Projected: 6-6
Currently: 4-0;
Ranked No. 20
Grade: A+

After a lackluster start to the season, Bill Snyder has coached the Wildcats magnificently. K-State's improvement on defense has the Wildcats undefeated, ranked and feared for the first time in years.

IOWA STATE CYCLONES

Projected: 4-8
Currently: 3-1
Grade: B

Iowa State made headlines with a triple-overtime win over rival Iowa. Then, the Cyclones won at Connecticut to get to 3-0. But with an opportunity for a huge win at home against Texas, ISU fell flat. A bowl game still may be a stretch.

BIG 12 CONFERENCE

Non-conference Record: 27-3
Best wins: OU at Florida State, Baylor vs. TCU, K-State at Miami
Worst loss: Texas A&M to Arkansas
Grade: A-

Overall, the Big 12 has looked a lot more stable on the field than in the rumor mill. The league has two, maybe three legitimate national title contenders, and K-State and Baylor have been pleasant surprises. The future appears bright for the Big 12 — if it survives, that is.



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Microfinance myths: poverty panacea?

Jonathan Pedde
The Dartmouth

Microfinance — the provision of small, group loans to poor people in poor countries — is, depending on whom you ask, either the latest way for western capitalists to exploit third world laborers or the miracle cure that will allow the world's poorest citizens to successfully run their own business and thereby work their way out of poverty. The government of Andhra Pradesh, the Indian state where I spent the better part of last summer, clearly agrees with the former view. In 2007, after a spate of farmer suicides, the government nearly wiped out the state's entire microfinance industry by making repayment of microfinance loans illegal. Many of the development organizations that support microfinance, on the other hand, clearly believe that microfinance has significant potential. I met many people who sincerely believed that their microfinance efforts represented their best contribution in the fight against global poverty. However, by over-selling the benefits of microfinance, these organizations risk leaving other important problems unaddressed.

I tend to be more skepti-

cal — while microfinance is clearly beneficial to poor countries, these benefits are neither as large nor of the form that many of microfinance's proponents claim. First, I do not accept the implicit premise that small businesses represent the way out of deprivation for the majority of the world's poorest citizens. Second, microfinance lending is structured in a way that is of little use to people who wish to start new and innovative businesses.

In Andhra Pradesh, small, family-owned shops are a dime a dozen: Drive down any major road, and you'll probably see at least one every hundred yards. During my time in India, none of the small-business owners whom I met earned an income significantly higher than comparable daily laborers. Economic studies done in this part of India have shown that the average owner-operator of one of these businesses earns less than the minimum wage. Most of these small business owners are running small businesses because they have no alternatives, not because they are somehow more entrepreneurial than the citizens of developed countries.

If given the choice, many small business owners would rather be working in a stable,

wage-paying job than running their own business. The owner-operator of a small business bears a tremendous amount of risk — a wage-earning employee, on the other hand, has significantly greater security in regards to future income and employment. There is considerable empirical evidence that this greater stability improves the lives not only of the workers themselves but also of their children. For instance, one study in Mexico showed that women who moved from running a small business to working in a sweatshop began to better feed their children, thereby largely eliminating the height difference between those children and healthy children. Like it or not, the soulless multinationals who established sweatshops in Singapore and call centers in India are doing something that most poor small business owners can never do for themselves — create consistent employment that is the first step on the ladder out of poverty. Research by Tuck School of Business professor Rafael La Porta has shown that more developed economies have a smaller proportion of the population who are self-employed or work for small businesses.

Even if small businesses were a feasible route out of

poverty, microfinance is unsuited to properly support these endeavors. Traditional loans to the poor — uncollateralized, with flexible repayment schedules — are very risky and time-consuming from the lender's perspective. Microfinance loans, in contrast, are completely inflexible — the repayment dates are fixed, and defaults are rare because an entire group of borrowers is usually responsible for the repayment of every individual's loan. This rigidity is not well suited to entrepreneurship, which, by definition, is risky and uncertain. One cannot reasonably start a new business with loans that demand quick and complete repayment.

That being said, there is considerable evidence that microfinance loans help poor families ride out hard times without falling into destitution — economists call this "consumption smoothing." In this regard, microfinance is often invaluable. But it is wrong to think that microfinance is a panacea for eliminating global poverty. This simplistic kind of thinking obscures other immense economic problems that poor countries face. Given how fortunate all of us at Dartmouth are, we owe the world's poorest citizens more than sloppy thinking.

TO THE POINT

Local Red Cross blood drives vital to K-State students, Midwest

To the point is an editorial selected and debated by the editorial board and written after a majority opinion is formed. This is the Collegian's official opinion.

Every two seconds someone in the U.S. needs blood. On average, the human body contains about 10 pints of blood. It seems very apparent that donating blood is a good thing to do. Seeing that a blood donor saved the life of a member of the editorial board, we have some perspective on how important donating blood can be. Donating blood essentially is donating life to another in need.

According to the American Red Cross, only 3 out of every 100 Americans donate blood. Taking into account that regional blood supplies drop when things like natural disasters or any other type of calamity occurs, the need for blood is huge. Also, according to the American Red Cross, 9 percent of donors donate occasionally, 31 percent are first-time donors and 50 percent are regular donors.

The American Red Cross takes many precautions to ensure that both donors and

receivers of blood are taken care of. Donors go through various screenings before they are allowed to give blood and the blood is tested afterward. The blood donations collected at mobile locations, like the sites in the K-State Student Union and Putnam Hall today, account for nearly 80 percent of the donations collected in a year.

It seems ridiculous that so very few Americans are willing to help their fellow neighbors, especially given the amount of time and return the average donor receives on this investment. The average donation takes no more than an hour and a half and refreshments are provided afterward. Here at K-State, students also receive a free T-shirt for their donation. The Collegian encourages everyone who is eligible to attempt to donate blood today. We may never know when a K-Stater or a loved one will need a blood transfusion.

DeRay Davis to perform, raise money for cancer research Wednesday

Mark Kern
assistant sports editor

Phi Beta Sigma is hosting an event to help raise money for cancer research on Wednesday. Comedian DeRay Davis will be performing in the K-State Student Union's Forum Hall, located on the first floor. The doors will open at 7 p.m. and the show will start at 8 p.m.

Davis has been in many movies and television shows, including "Barbershop" 1 and 2, "Entourage" and "Wild 'N Out."

Jacob Handy, junior in

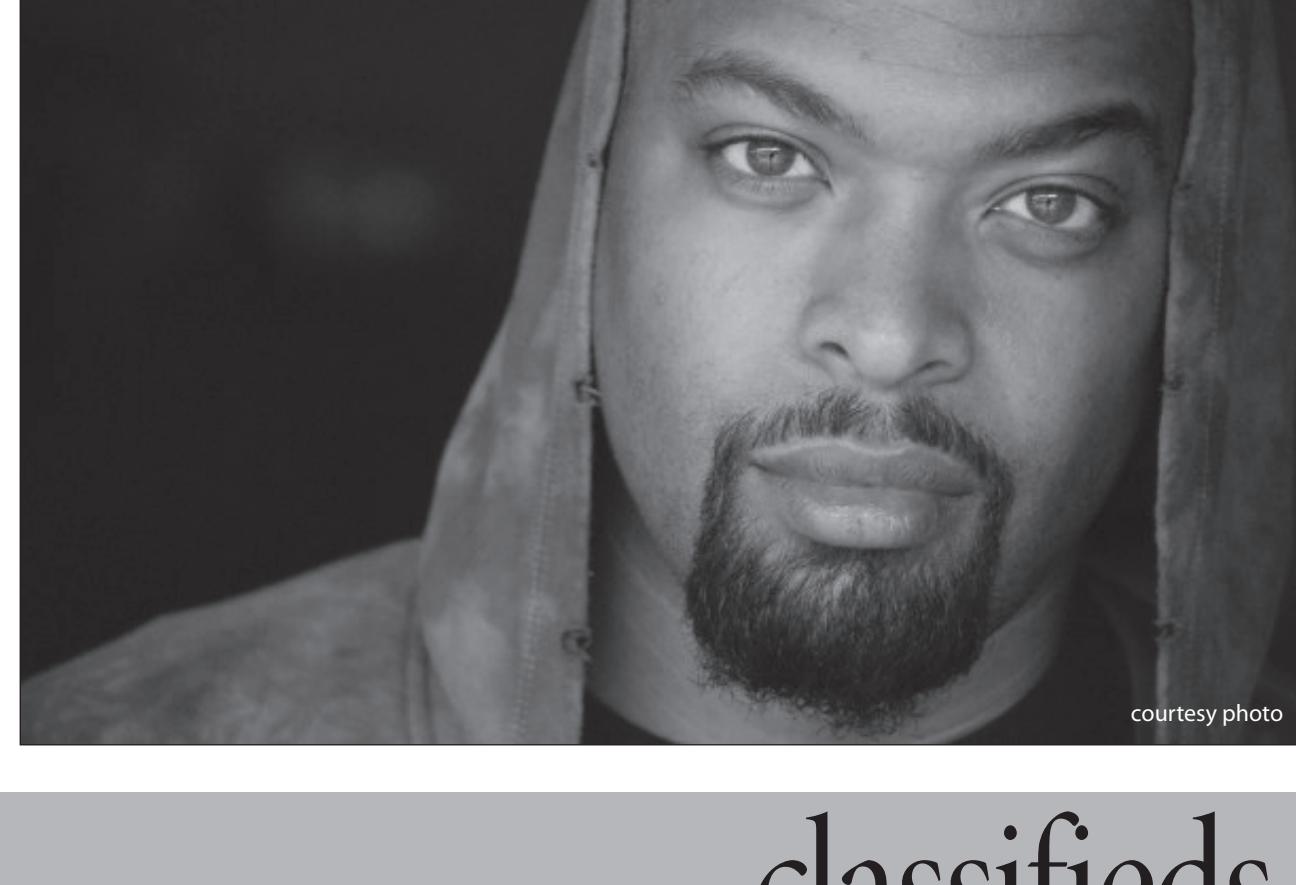
public relations and member of Phi Beta Sigma, said he hopes to see as many students out there as possible.

"Everybody throughout the year needs a getaway from the grind and just have some fun," Handy said. "DeRay has been in many movies and has been making people laugh for a long time. It is also for a good cause, so it should just be an enjoyable night for everybody."

The event will be free for students with a K-State ID and \$5 for the general public. All proceeds will go to the American Cancer Society.

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5 7 1 2 9 4 8 3 6
7 2 8 6 5 9 1 4 3
1 9 4 7 8 3 6 2 5
3 6 5 4 2 1 7 9 8
4 5 7 3 1 8 2 6 9
2 1 9 5 7 6 3 8 4
6 8 3 9 4 2 5 7 1

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"Real Options, Real Help, Real Hope

Western specialty store to celebrate 10 years in Manhattan

Elizabeth Hughes
contributing writer

Editor's Note: This article was completed as an assignment for a class in the A.Q. Miller School of Journalism and Mass Communications.

What is formerly known as the Robert C. Buchanan Trucking Company is now one of the leading Western specialty stores in the Manhattan area. With more than 3,000 pairs of Western and work boots, Western apparel and accessories, tack, ropes and home decor, the RB Outpost supplies Manhattan with a full-line of Western merchandise. On Oct. 15, RB Outpost will be celebrating their 10-year anniversary with several festivities open to the public.

Throughout their 10 years of business, RB Outpost has been involved with the Manhattan and K-State communities. The store supports and interacts with local rodeo and 4H clubs, a n d

the K-State Vet School, rodeo team and Equestrian team.

Becky Anderson, a former member of the K-State Rodeo team, spoke about the team's interaction with the RB Outpost.

"RB Outpost always sponsored a belt buckle for the Queen Contest each year. They always donated items for the silent auction we have each year, too. When I qualified for the College National Finals Rodeo, they advertised it in front of the store on their marquee, so they were definitely supporters of the rodeo team."

I always bought my tack and apparel out there, and most of the other team members did as well," Anderson said.

Established in 2001 as a Purina Feed dealer, the RB Outpost was initially intended to be a farm supply store.

"Because we ran the grain elevator in Riley, Purina approached our family and asked if we would be interested in selling."

ing Purina products," said Pam Laird, manager of RB Outpost and daughter of owners Bob and Alma Buchanan. "During our producer meeting with Purina, the reps noticed how much traffic was going by on the highway and thought it would be a great location for a retail store."

The Buchanan family was aware that Manhattan lacked a place for consumers to shop for different types of Western merchandise all in one place, so they agreed to create the RB Outpost.

"It was a joint decision with my sister, mom and dad and I to embark on this family business," Laird said. "After that meeting we really just went to the internet, found companies and contacts and started making phone calls."

Laird described the domino effect that went into place as sales reps spread the word to other sales reps of a new western store going into business, and immediately various vendors began trying to sell their products to RB Outpost.

RB Outpost is one of the remaining locally owned and operated businesses. Robert and Alma Buchanan, the owners of the RB Outpost, said they will keep the business in the family with their two daughters managing it and their grandsons working as employees. They have lived right across from the site of the store since 1966.

"It's awesome working for a family-run company because they really care about their employees," said Dane

Starnes, an employee since December 2010. "They do a great job running the store and communicate with each other really well. I love working for them."

Laird said the store tries to keep stock the customers need.

"We try to anticipate those things as much as possible, but it also comes with listening to people and asking the customers questions," Laird said. "We try our best to find whatever the customer is looking for even if we don't have it, or at least try to point them in the right direction to find it. It's all about the customer service, and listening to the customers."

The RB Outpost specializes in carrying high-quality products from many Western manufacturers and

suppliers.

"When working with companies and suppliers, it's very important to me to deal with companies who will take care of their customers and stand behind their products because that allows us to stand behind what we're selling and have quality customer service," Laird said.

In honor of the 10-year anniversary, RB Outpost will be holding roping activities in the afternoon, leading up to a chuck-wagon barbecue at 6 p.m. that is free to the public.

"The big thing that we're looking at for the next 10 years is having more of a presence on the Internet," Laird said.

"We are trying to launch our website, hoping to have that done at the end of month. We want to look into the possibilities of shipping across the nation, and providing information related to different events going on and Western style."



RB Outpost is located at 7003 Tuttle Creek Blvd. The store sells feed, Western clothes and different types of equipment.

Lauren Gocken | Collegian

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